

Indiana Dunes State Park

1600 N. 25 E.

Chesterton, Indiana 46304

NC # (219) 926-1390

Park Manager: Brandt Baughman

Asst. Park Manager: Mickey Rea



Jack Pine

Nature Center Staff:

Brad Bumgardner

Cookie Ferguson

Mikayla Craven

Greg Thoman



Need a Park Map?

www.interpretiveservices.in.gov

June Nature Center Hours:

9:30am - 4:30pm CDT Sun-Fri

9:30am – 6pm CDT Saturday

All programs are free (unless otherwise noted) and open to the public after paying the park entrance fee. Our interpretive programs are designed to entertain and enrich folks of all ages. Children under 12, please bring an adult.

Friday, June 3

Dunes Glamping Weekend!

9am Beach Yoga! The state park and the YMCA are partnering in 2016 to offer beach yoga on the state park main beach. Usual cost is \$10 per session, but **this particular session is free**. For more information or to register, visit <http://valpoymca.org/> or call (219) 462-4185. Classes are cancelled in inclement weather.

7:30pm A Glampfire S'mores Gathering!

Join us to learn about the up-and-coming trend of glamping, which puts a spin on rustic camping by adding a luxurious touch to nature. We'll talk about glamping opportunities at our State Parks while enjoying some fancy "glamping" S'mores! Spend time with the naturalists and get a special campfire treat and a welcome gift. Meet at the Campground Shelter, by site 116. Parking available at the Campground Gate for those coming from town. JR, MC



Saturday June 4

Dunes Glamping Weekend!

10am Good Morning Glampers! Kick off our Glamping Weekend with guest naturalist Jessica on the Nature Center front lawn. Check out the trends in glamping, or glamorous camping. We'll have a model glampsite set up and a make-it, take-it glamping gift for you. JR

12pm Vintage Camper Swap-Meet. Bring your vintage or older camp supplies for an informal swap (buy, sell or trade) your vintage camper parts, tires, cookware, anything retro and vintage. Meet in the Campground Shelter. This is open to everyone!

2pm Vintage Camper Open House. Check out the cool array of vintage campers and glampers in the campground from 2pm-4pm. Look for the campers with the yellow signs in the middle of the campground. Feel free to poke around and ask questions.

4pm Wild Edibles Walk. Meet the Wilson Shelter for a special hour walk exploring some delicious dune delicacies found below your feet. We'll traverse an easy part of Trail 2 and be back before 5pm. Join us! MC

Sunday June 5

Dunes Glamping Weekend!

8:30am Informal Church Service at the Campground Shelter.

9am Beach Yoga! The state park and the YMCA are partnering in 2016 to offer beach yoga on the state park main beach. Usual cost is \$10 per session, but **this particular session is free.** For more information or to register, visit <http://valpoyymca.org/> or call (219) 462-4185. Classes are cancelled in inclement weather.

10:30am Glampfire Cooking Demos. Meet at the Nature Center's outdoor program area to see, sniff, and sample what the naturalists are cooking over the glampfire this morning! Feel free to bring a copy of your favorite camping recipe to share with fellow glampers. JR, MC

1pm & 3pm Glamping Wire-wrapping Jewelry Workshops! Register for one of two special workshops that will allow users to learn the art of wire-wrapping and make your own beach glass or stone jewelry during this 1.5 hour session. Space is limited (extra spots held for campers!) and the workshop takes place in the Nature Center Auditorium. \$5/person workshop fee. Register by calling 219-926-1390.



Beach Yoga in the Dunes 2016!

The Duneland and Valparaiso YMCA have partnered with the Indiana Dunes State Park in 2016 to offer beach yoga on the state park main beach, by the pavilion. The cost is \$10 per session, and 5 class passes are also available for \$40. For more information or to register, call (219) 462-4185, visit valpoyymca.org, or just show up. Classes are cancelled in inclement weather.



Session Dates and Times are:

Tuesday	9am
Thursday	9am
Thursday (sunset yoga)	7pm
Friday	9am
Sunday	9am

Monday June 6

3pm Dunes Wetland Crossing. Explore the life in this amazing habitat here in the dunes. We'll meet at the Nature Center for this 1 hour tour. Grab the family and join us! GT

Tuesday June 7

9am Beach Yoga! See front page for more info.

10am Breeding Birds! Meet at the Nature Center for this hour stroll in search of the breeding birds in the dunes. We'll stop at several nesting bird territories for a chance peek at some babies. Bring binoculars if you have some, or borrow a pair of ours. BB

Wednesday June 8

10am Mt. Tom Bound! Strap on your hiking boots for a moderate jaunt up to the highest sand dune in Indiana. We'll meet at the Campground Shelter (by site 116) and enjoy an easier climb up. Total time about one hour. GT

Thursday June 9

9am Beach Yoga! See front page for more info.

10am Woodland Wander. Explore the early spring forest with the naturalist this morning. Meet at the Nature Center for a 45-minute tour of what's happening in the woods right now in the dunes. GT

3pm Turtle Time! Scoot your shell over to the Nature Center for a fun look at the turtles that reside in the dunes. Afterwards, we'll get in a circle and let them crawl around. Great program for the kids! MC



7pm Sunset Beach Yoga! See front page for more info.

Friday June 10

3pm A Beautiful Blowout Hike. Explore the beautiful beach house blowout this morning with Mikayla. We'll meet at the Nature Center and hike Trail 9 to the blowout, before returning back on Trail 10. Total time just over an hour. Strap on your hiking shoes and join us. MC

8pm Night Moves! Could you survive the dark forest in the dunes? Find out if you have the senses to find food, water, and shelter during this fun evening hike into the darkening woods. Children under 12, please bring a parent. Meet at the Nature Center. GT

Saturday June 11

10am 3 Dune Challenge Hike! Meet Mikayla as she tests your hiking skills by traversing all 3 of our highest dunes! Meet at the Campground Shelter for this rugged hike, then pick up your free sticker at the Dunes Visitor Center. We'll be out just over an hour. MB

3pm JD Marshall Shipwreck Anniversary.

Today marks the 105th anniversary of the sinking of the JD Marshall, just off shore of Indiana Dunes State Park. Visit the Nature Center to learn this amazing story and more about our rich maritime history. Great programs for folks of all ages. CF



5pm 100th Anniversary of State Parks! If you haven't seen this PBS special, come check it out! Explore 100 years of state park history, from the first state park to what's being done now in this 45-minute documentary in the Nature Center Auditorium

Sunday June 12

8:30am Informal Church Service at the Campground Shelter.

9am Beach Yoga! See front page for more info.

10am Feed the Birds. Join the Naturalist outside the Nature Center for the daily feeding of our birds. Get great close up views of chickadees, cardinals, and woodpeckers! Great fun for the kids. MC



3pm Snakes Alive! Slither over to the Nature Center for an educational look at the snakes that live in the dunes. We'll also look at some of the myths surrounding them. Bring the kids! MC

Monday June 13

3pm Nature Scrap Booking. Explore some neat ways to remember your dunes visit with Mikayla this afternoon. We'll be creating a little make-it, take-it craft you can use to remember your visit. Meet at the Nature Center. MC

Tuesday June 14

9am Beach Yoga! See front page for more info.

10am Another Dam Hike. Explore what the resident beavers are up to this morning on a little exploratory hike along Dunes Creek in search of signs of their life. Meet at the Campground Gate. GT

3pm Frogs in Love! Check out what our resident frogs, toads, and salamanders are up to in this fun little topic. We'll start in the Nature Center, but then move down the trail a short distance to see if we can find some. MC

Wednesday June 15

10am Mt. Tom Bound! Strap on your hiking boots for a moderate jaunt up to the highest sand dune in Indiana. We'll meet at the Campground Shelter (by site 116) and enjoy an easier climb up. Total time about one hour. GT

3pm Who Pooped in the Park! Okay, who dun it!? Test your facts on feces during this fun game with prizes. We'll study the science of scatology and give out prizes for those that really know their poop! Visit the Nature Center to learn more! GT

Thursday June 16

9am Beach Yoga! See back page for more info.

10am Feed the Birds. Join the Naturalist outside the Nature Center for the daily feeding of our birds. Get great close up views of chickadees, cardinals, and woodpeckers! Great fun for the kids. BB

3pm A High Tech Scavenger Hunt. Join us for a scavenger hunt with a techno-twist! Meet at the Nature Center and learn about the hobby of geocaching, and try your hand at finding one for yourself. Prizes for the kids! Join us! BB

7pm Sunset Beach Yoga! See back page for more info.

7pm Crown Point Community Theatre performs Jean Paul Sartre's NO EXIT. Grab your blanket or beach chair and join us on the West side of the Pavilion for Free Classic Theatre, the second of a series of Park Plays presented by the Northwest Indiana Excellence in Theatre Foundation this summer. In case of inclement weather, the performance will be held at Wilson Shelter.

Friday, June 17

9am Beach Yoga! See back page for more info.

10am Dunes Wetland Wander. Hike down into the dune wetlands this morning. We'll check out breeding birds, underwater critters, and more during this exploratory 45 minute stroll. GT

3pm 100th Anniversary of State Parks! If you haven't seen this PBS special, come check it out! Explore 100 years of state park history, from the first state park to what's being done now in this 45-minute documentary in the Nature Center Auditorium

8pm Bat Chat! Swoop into the Nature Center Program area for a fun look at the bats of the dunes. We'll be using special iPad apps to detect and identify the bats around us this evening. Join us for this high tech critter search. MC



Saturday June 18

10am If Plants Could Talk! Join Cookie at the Nature Center for a look at edible plants and some of those used by Native Americans. We'll be out about an hour. CF

11am Shifting Sands Documentary. Explore the diverse dunes ecosystems, journey through its epic history, and learn of the controversial economic and environmental struggles of the past in this new documentary making it's state park debut this morning. It all takes place inside the Nature Center.

3pm The Incredible Journey. Explore the twists and turns that a single drop of water takes in Northwest Indiana before it reaches Lake Michigan. Meet the naturalist at the Nature Center to solve a little water puzzle. We'll then play a water game and craft to remember your drop of water. GT



Sunday June 19

8:30am Informal Church Service at the Campground Shelter.

9am Beach Yoga! See back page for more info.

10am Feed the Birds. Join the Naturalist outside the Nature Center for the daily feeding of our birds. Get great close up views of chickadees and more! GT

3pm Dune Beasties at High Power!

Join the naturalist in the Nature Center for a fun look at some of the smallest parts of nature. We'll bring the high power microscopes out for close up looks at some amazing pieces of nature! Great program for the kids! GT



Monday June 20

10am A Beautiful Blowout Hike. Explore the beautiful beach house blowout this morning with Mikayla. We'll meet at the Nature Center and hike Trail 9 to the blowout, before returning back on Trail 10. Total time just over an hour. Strap on your hiking shoes and join us. MC

3pm Sand Art on the Summer Solstice. Come check out what makes the dunes so special, and then try your hand at a little make-it, take-it craft. We'll be soaking in the first day of summer sun on the Nature Center front deck. Join us! MC

Tuesday June 21

9am Beach Yoga! See back page for more info.

10am Feed the Birds. Join the Naturalist outside the Nature Center for the daily feeding of our birds. Get great close up views of chickadees, cardinals, and woodpeckers! Great fun for the kids. MC



3pm Wild Edibles Walk. Meet the Nature Center for a special hour walk exploring some delicious dune delicacies found below your feet. MC

Wednesday June 22

10am Mt. Tom Bound! Strap on your hiking boots for a moderate jaunt up to the highest sand dune in Indiana. We'll meet at the Campground Shelter (by site 116) and enjoy an easier climb up. Total time about one hour. MC

3pm Compass Games! Forget the GPS, try your hand at old fashioned navigating with Greg this afternoon. We'll test your compass skills with a chance to win some prizes! Meet at the Nature Center. Bring the entire family! GT

Thursday June 23

9am Beach Yoga! See back page for more info.

10am Another Dam Hike. Explore what the resident beavers are up to this morning on a little exploratory hike along Dunes Creek in search of signs of their life. Meet at the Campground Gate. GT

3pm Reptile Review! What's it like being a reptile in the dunes? Find out in this fun 45 minute discovery program at the Nature Center outside program area. We'll discuss the turtles, snakes, and lizards of the park! Great program, even if you're uncomfortable around these types of animals. GT

7pm Sunset Beach Yoga! See back page for more info.

Friday June 24

10am Dunes History Hike. Traverse some of the high dunes this morning as we explore our rich history along the way. Meet at the Campground Shelter for this hour hike, part of the 100 programs for 100 years centennial celebration. MC

3pm Nature Crafts. Explore some neat ways to remember your dunes visit with Mikayla this afternoon. We'll be creating a little make-it, take-it craft you can use to remember your visit. Meet at the Nature Center. MC

8pm Animals of the Night! Test your dunes animal knowledge with Greg tonight at the Campground Shelter. We'll see how well you can unlock the clues to what critters might be living with you this weekend. Prizes for those that know their stuff! GT

Saturday June 25

10am Mt. Tom Bound! Strap on your hiking boots for a moderate jaunt up to the highest sand dune in Indiana. We'll meet at the Campground Shelter (by site 116) and enjoy an easier climb up. Total time about one hour. CF

3pm Turtle Time! Scoot your shell over to the Nature Center for a fun look at the turtles that reside in the dunes. Afterwards, we'll get in a circle and let them crawl around. Great program for the kids! GT

4pm Naturalist Beach Break! Watch for Mikayla down near the beach pavilion. What neat dune surprises will she have with her? Check it out if you're down by the beach this afternoon. MC

8pm Moonbug Meander! It's an evening with the fireflies tonight! Meet Mikayla for a hike through the dunes in search of the interesting and amazing lightning bugs. Meet at the Campground Gate. Children under 12, please bring a parent. MC



Hoosier Quest Pin and Patch Program!

Visit the Nature Center to find out how you and your family can earn pins and patches in the Indiana State Parks this summer. See a Naturalist to learn more!

Sunday June 26

8:30am Informal Church Service at the Campground Shelter.

9am Beach Yoga! See back page for more info.

10am Feed the Birds. Join the Naturalist outside the Nature Center for the daily feeding of our birds. Get great close up views of chickadees, cardinals, and woodpeckers! Great fun for the kids. GT



3pm Snakes Alive! Slither over to the Nature Center for an educational look at the snakes that live in the dunes. We'll also look at some of the myths surrounding them. Bring the kids! MC

Find These Programs and others at Indiana State Parks and Reservoirs On-line at
www.interpretiveservices.in.gov

Make a campsite or shelter reservation at 1-866-622-6746 or
on-line at www.CAMP.IN.gov



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